# III.    AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- *PLEASE FIND BELOW A MARKED VERSION OF CLAIMS WITH PRESENT STATUS DELINEATED*

    - *THE CLAIMS ARE HEREIN AMENDED, CANCELED, OR ADDED TO, SO AS TO EVENTUATE IN THE NEW SET OF PENDING CLAIMS INDICATED BELOW.    THIS LISTING OF CLAIMS WILL REPLACE ALL PRIOR VERSIONS AND LISTING OF CLAIMS IN THE APPLICATION.*

-- The status of each claim is indicated after the claim number by use of a parenthetical identifier selected from: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), (Withdrawn), (Withdrawn – currently amended), (Previously presented), (New), and (Not entered).  Claim text is provided for each claim in the listing except for the claims status "canceled" or "not entered."  Only claims having the status of "Currently amended" or "Withdrawn – currently amended" include markings to indicate changes that have been made relative to the immediate prior version of the claims. The text of any deleted matter is shown by strike-through, except that double brackets placed before and after deleted characters of five or fewer consecutive characters may be used.  The text of any added subject matter is shown by underlining the added text.  Claims that were previously canceled that are reinstated here, if any, are reinstated by adding the claim as a "(New)" claim with a new claim number.

1. – 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A method for authenticating a digital medium comprising:

requesting at a data processing apparatus a read operation of a data structure of a digital medium from a media reader;

monitoring a transfer rate of read-data from a media read device to a computing device resulting from the reading of said data structure stored on [[a]] said digital medium at a physical location of the medium; wherein the read-data are processible by said data processing apparatus and wherein said transfer rate is the rate at which said data structure is transferred from the media reader to the data processing apparatus in response to said read request;

determining, at the computing device, from the monitored transfer rate, the presence of an anomaly region on the digital medium corresponding to the physical location of the data structure on the digital medium by identifying a modification in said transfer rate at such anomaly region from other regions surrounding such anomaly region on the digital medium; and if the read data from the media reader to the data processing device; and

authenticating the digital medium based on a characteristic of the anomaly region.

20. (Currently amended) A system for authenticating a digital medium comprising:

a computing device[[;]] configured to permit a request for read of a data structure from a media reader;

a media read device;

a monitor that monitors a transfer rate of read-data read-data from said media read device reader to said computing device due to the reading of [[a]] data structure stored on a digital medium installed on the media reader at a physical location of the medium; wherein the read data are processible by said computing device and wherein said transfer rate at which the read data structure is transferred from the media reader to the data processing apparatus in response to a request for a read of the data structure;

an anomaly detector that determines, from the monitored transfer rate, the presence of an anomaly region on the digital medium corresponding to the physical location of the data

structure on the digital medium by identifying a modification in the transfer rate of the ~~read data~~ read-data ~~at such anomaly region from other regions surrounding such anomaly region on the digital medium~~ from said media ~~device~~ reader to said computing device; and

an authenticator that authenticates the digital medium based on a characteristic of the anomaly region.

- *APPLICANTS' STATEMENT REGARDING AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS.*

Applicants state affirmatively that any amendments to the claims are wholly within the scope of the disclosure, and that no new matter is added. Support for amendments to the claims is found, among other places, at Fig. 1, and paragraphs [0055], [0086], and [0092].